

TEXT OF TELEGRAM 83ISLAMA009160

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ACTION RP-10

INFO OCT-00 COPY-01 ADS-00 AID-07 INR-10 EUR-12 CIAE-00
EB-08 IG-15 NEA-06 NSAE-00 HA-08 L-03 TRSE-00
OMB-01 SP-02 SR-06 /089 W

-----312421 251238Z /50

P 251050Z MAY 83
FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4435
USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY KABUL
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMCONSUL KARACHI
AMCONSUL LAHORE
AMCONSUL PESHAWAR POUCH

CONFIDENTIAL SECTION 01 OF 02 ISLAMABAD 09160

STATE FOR RP/IAR, NEA/PAB AND HA

U.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: SREF, ICRC, AF PK
SUBJECT: OPERATION OF ICRC/PAKISTAN THREATENED BY
SHORTAGE OF FUNDS.

REF: (A) STATE 136392 (B) ISLAMABAD 03154 (C) ISLAMABAD
1659

1. (C) ENTIRE TEXT.

2. SUMMARY. WE URGE DEPT MAKE ANTICIPATED FY 83 CONTRIBUTION TO ICRC OF DOLS 500,000 IN PAKISTANI RUPEES AT AN EARLY DATE. THE PLEDGE OF DOLS 700,000 TO ICRC (REF A) IS MOST TIMELY AS ICRC/PESHAWAR HAS REPORTED A CRITICAL SHORTAGE OF FUNDS CONFRONTING ITS PAKISTAN OPERATION. BECAUSE OF THIS SHORTAGE GENEVA HAS ORDERED A TEMPORARY HALT IN TWO ONGOING PROJECTS IN PESHAWAR.
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ICRC IS DEEPLY CONCERNED OVER POSSIBLE RESULTANT LOSS OF ITS CREDIBILITY. OTHER DONORS' RESPONSE TO 1983 ICRC APPEAL HAS BEEN "LESS THAN SATISFACTORY". THE BUDGETARY SITUATION CASTS A SHADOW OVER THE PESHAWAR PARAPLEGIC CENTER, NOW UNDER CONSTRUCTION, AND RECENTLY FORMULATED PLANS FOR A NEW HOSPITAL IN QUETTA. WE HOPE USMISSION/GENEVA CAN URGE ICRC/GENEVA TO AUTHORIZE ICRC/PESHAWAR TO RESUME WORK ON PESHAWAR PROJECTS, GIVEN U.S. PLEDGE. END SUMMARY

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/LR

REVIEWED BY *[Signature]* DATE *4/2/86*

ROSCOT XDS/EXT. DATE _____

TO AUTH. ☐ R. A. 10 (C)

ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐

DECLASSIFIED ☐ ISLAMABAD

RELEASE DETERMINED *via ref 13a 519*

IA OF FCI EXEMPTIONS

3. CRITICAL SHORTAGE OF FUNDS FACES ICRC'S PESHAWAR PROJECTS.

TO EMPHASIZE CRITICAL SHORTAGE OF FUNDS FACING ICRC'S PESHAWAR PROJECTS. HE WAS GRATEFUL TO HEAR FROM REFCOUNS ON MAY 19 OF USG CONTRIBUTION OF DOLS 700,000 FOR ICRC'S PAKISTAN OPERATION. HAD TOLD CONSUL THAT ICRC/ GENEVA HAD ORDERED A TEMPORARY HALT TO 2 ONGOING PROJECTS IN PESHAWAR BECAUSE ICRC OPERATIONS IN PESHAWAR ARE ONE MILLION SWISS FRANCS IN THE RED. ICRC HAD SUSPENDED CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW PARAPLEGIC UNIT

CONTRIBUTION WILL ENABLE ICRC TO RESUME ORIGINAL SCHEDULE FOR BOTH THESE ACTIVITIES.

4. LOSS OF CREDIBILITY FOR ICRC?
CONSUL PESHAWAR HAS REPORTED ICRC/PESHAWAR'S CONCERN THAT HALTING THE TWO PROJECTS IN QUESTION WOULD RESULT IN A LOSS OF CREDIBILITY FOR THE ICRC WITH BOTH THE GOP AND THE AFGHAN MOJAHEDIN THAT THE GOP HAS DONATED LAND FOR THE PARAPLEGIC CENTER AND WILL BE CONFIDENTIAL
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VERY SENSITIVE TO ANY DELAYS IN CONSTRUCTION NOTED FURTHER THAT THE AFGHAN MOJAHEDIN ARE ALREADY DRAWING THE INCORRECT CONCLUSION THAT ICRC HAS INSIDE INFORMATION ON GENEVA TALKS AND THAT THE ORGANIZATION IS PREPARING TO CLOSE DOWN ITS AID TO THE WAR WOUNDED.

5. DISAPPOINTING RESPONSE TO ICRC APPEAL.

THAT THE ICRC HAD RECEIVED NO MAJOR CONTRIBUTION TO ITS AFGHAN REFUGEE APPEAL OF JANUARY 1983 (THIS WAS BEFORE RECENT U.S. PLEDGE WAS RECEIVED). EARLY IN MAY HE VISITED SEVEN EMBASSIES IN ISLAMABAD (AUSTRIA, CANADA, JAPAN, NETHERLANDS, NORWAY, SWEDEN AND WEST GERMANY) TO URGE THEIR GENEROUS SUPPORT. THE RESULTS WERE "LESS THAN SATISFACTORY" ONE OR TWO EMBASSIES PLEDGED CONTRIBUTIONS EQUAL TO THEIR 1982 DONATIONS.

6. PARAPLEGIC CENTER.

BUDGETARY SITUATION CASTS SHADOW OVER PESHAWAR PARAPLEGIC CENTER, WHICH HAS BEEN SUBJECT OF DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN ICRC/PESHAWAR AND CONSUL/PESHAWAR AND REFCOUNS. IN REF B EMBASSY URGED USG SUPPORT FOR PARAPLEGIC CENTER, NOTING IT WILL BENEFIT PAKISTANIS AS WELL AS AFGHANS.

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THE CENTER IS NOW UNDER CONSTRUCTION ON LAND DONATED BY THE GOP. THE WALLS HAVE BEEN FINISHED AND FUNDS ARE NEEDED TO COMPLETE THE ROOF. ICRC HAS RECEIVED A CONTRIBUTION FROM SIDA (SWEDEN) FOR CONSTRUCTION. REFCOUNS AND VICE CONSUL/PESHAWAR VISITED SITE MAY 9. CHIEF ENGINEER OF PROJECT TOLD THEM CONSTRUCTION WAS 2-3 WEEKS

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 ISLAMABAD 09160

STATE FOR RP/IAR, NEA/PAB AND HA

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

TAGS: SREF, ICRC, AF PK

SUBJECT: OPERATION OF ICRC/PAKISTAN THREATENED BY

BEHIND SCHEDULE BECAUSE OF UNUSUALLY HEAVY RAINS, BUT
THAT ICRC STILL HOPES TO MOVE INTO THE NEW BUILDING NO
LATER THAN JANUARY 1984.

7. ICRC PLANS HOSPITAL IN QUETTA.

AS DEPT AWARE (SEE STATE 143995), THE ICRC HAS DECIDED,

SUBJECT TO GOP APPROVAL, TO

OPEN A HOSPITAL IN QUETTA (BALUCHISTAN) SIMILAR TO THE

PESHAWAR HOSPITAL, THOUGH SOMEWHAT SMALLER (40 BEDS

PLANNED, AS COMPARED WITH 100 IN PESHAWAR). LIKE THE

PESHAWAR HOSPITAL, THE HOSPITAL IN QUETTA WOULD BE EX-

CUSIVELY FOR WAR WOUNDED. THE QUETTA HOSPITAL WOULD

HAVE ONE SURGICAL TEAM, AND WOULD BE SOMEWHAT LESS

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SOPHISTICATED THAN THE PESHAWAR HOSPITAL. THE LATEST
ICRC APPEAL ISSUED FOR CY 83 DOES NOT INCLUDE FUNDS FOR
A QUETTA OPERATION. WE ARE IN PROCESS OF PREPARING
AS REQUESTED STATE 143995 AN EVALUATION OF THIS PROJECT.
AND WILL RECOMMEND U.S. SUPPORT.

8. ICRC TO KABUL?; SOVIET PRISONERS.

ICRC IS HOPEFUL OF BEING READMITTED TO KABUL. AN ICRC
OFFICIAL TOLD US THAT THE 4-MAN TEAM THAT WENT TO KABUL

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FOR PROTECTION OF PRISONERS, TRACING OF MISSING PERSONS AND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE WAS ASKED TO LEAVE FOR A SPECIFIC REASON FOR THE TIME BEING IN OCTOBER 1982, BUT THE AUTHORITIES NEVER DEIGNED TO SAY WHAT THAT SPECIFIC REASON WAS.

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9. ACTION REQUESTED, DEPARTMENT.
WE ARE PLEASED THE USG HAS NOW PLEDGED DOLS 700,000 (REF A) IN RESPONSE TO ICRC APPEAL AND EMBASSY RECOMMENDATION (REF B) FOR EXPANDED SUPPORT FOR ICRC'S HOSPITAL AND PARAPLEGIC CENTER. WE URGE DEPT TO MAKE ANTICIPATED 1983 CONTRIBUTION TO ICRC OF DOLS 500,000 IN PAKISTANI RUPEES AT AN EARLY DATE.

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10. ACTION REQUESTED, GENEVA.
WITH OUR DOLS 700,000 PLEDGE (REF A) WE ASSUME ICRC IS NOW ABLE TO RESUME WORK ON ONGOING PROJECTS IN PESHAWAR. AS OF MAY 25, HOWEVER, ICRC/PESHAWAR HAD NOT RECEIVED WORD FORM ICRC/GENEVA RESCINDING TEMPORARY HALT. PLEASE URGE ICRC/GENEVA TO INFORM ICRC/PESHAWAR ASAP THAT THEY CAN RESUME WORK ON THESE SENSITIVE PROJECTS.

11. KABUL MINIMIZE CONSIDERED. SPIERS

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